1: Gifford E-4,5 (1920-1921) 1929 OU9 Tonga OU9

Cisterns (*lepa*) for conserving rain water for drinking purposes were no doubt shared by several families, though owned by the chiefs. The ancient type of cistern, which has now been replaced by a concrete cistern, was a hole about ten feet deep, dug near a house. The sides and bottom of this hole were beaten with the trunk of a banana tree until they were hard and waterproof. Water was lead from the roof of the house by means of spouts made of bamboo sticks split in halves.

Dug wells, like clay-lined cisterns, were owned by the chiefs. (See p. 124.) These were used as bathing places, fresh or brackish water for this purpose being much appreciated. Each chief usually had such a bathing place near his residence. He might allow his matapule to use it also, but not his commoners. Women had special bathing places. A well or cistern for bathing was called *vaikaukau*. Many of them bore names (25). One just northwest of Nukualofa belongs to the chief Lomu.

NOTES ON LAND HOLDINGS

Eua

It is said that originally the northern part of the Eua Island was held by Manumua, anciently a chief of Eua, who was attached to the court of the Tui Tonga, and the southern part by another chief named Vakauta, but that later chiefs from Tongatabu other than the governors sent by the Tui Tonga obtained portions. Both original owners seem to have assigned portions of their holdings to later comers, as the following records show:

Tuanuku, a tract at the southern end of Eua was so named for Havea Tuanuku, younger brother of a former chief Nuku of Tongatabu, who came to Eua in the Eighteenth Century to be matapule to the governor Tukuaho. Manumua gave the tract to Havea Tuanuku and it is held to-day by one of Havea's descendants.

A Tui Kanokupolu came to Houma in Eua Island on a vacation (*takataka i Houma*; literally, walking about in Houma) and begot by a Houma woman a son whom he named Tupou Takatakaihouma and who was called for short Taka. Manumua gave the lad Houma, the north end of the island for his *tofia*.

Manumua gave as a *tofia* to Hama, a soothsayer (*tongafisi*), who came from the Tui Haa Takalaua, a tract which included Ofilei and Sipangai and adjoined that of Taka. Hama also had an *api* called Halahu, at the southern end of the island. The particular spot where he lived is called Matakiata (Seeing-to-Ata), because in his capacity of *tongafisi* he discovered Ata Island. He told his son to go to Ata.

The modern chief Hafoka of Eua, a relative of Veehala of Tongatabu, says that the holdings that were once his forefathers' are now vested in Veehala, who receives the rents from them. Kalau Island, south of Eua, once belonged to Hafoka and was utilized by the people of Haaluma, a former hamlet in Hafoka's *tofia* near the southern end of Eua. It was deserted in Christian times and its people now live in Ohonua.

Tongatabu

Formerly all the Haa Havea chiefs, as well as the Haa Ngata Motua chiefs, had pieces of land in Hihifo. The Haa Havea chiefs received their

101: Clark K-4,5 (1974) 1978 OU9 Tonga OU9

245 As coconut palm cultivation increases toward the point of monoculture, the potential for destruction of croppings by pests [136] also increases. Two such pests are of particular significance in Tonga--rats and the rhinoceros beetle. Rats, alone, account for a loss of approximately 20 percent of the total coconut crop, annually. Fallow vegetation, which is left growing around planted palms, provides an excellent habitat for rats, and is conducive to rat breeding. Despite efforts by the Ministry of Agriculture to encourage farmers to reduce this cover, Tongan farmers continue to be uncooperative. Damage to young nuts is mot frequent, and occasionally a palm will lose its entire crop to this type of destruction. Plate 5 (p. 81) illustrates coconuts which have been destroyed by rats. The most reliable identification of rat damage is a hole gnawed through the coconut husk.

There are two procedures which have been proven to be effective in preventing, or at least curtailing, rat destruction. The removal of cover vegetation effectively discourages large numbers of [414] rats from living in close proximity to the palms. Secondly, fastening metal or plastic strips around the trunk of a palm prevents rats from climbing to the nuts. (This technique is most effective on palm trunks perpendicular to the ground, as opposed to those which lean to any excess.) Agricultural specialists in Tonga reported the use of metal strips to be the most effective method of combating rat damage (Hougland 1974). However, of the farmers interviewed, less [435] than one percent used this technique. Although the strips are cheap (8 to 15 cents apiece) and some varieties are guaranteed to last the

[Because of poor quality of original reproduction, plate has not been marked for a Category--Analyst.]